

## Relapse Drug Prevention for Sustainable Sobriety

Rithika sri. Y<sup>1</sup>, Nandhitha.M<sup>2</sup>, Bharathraj.S<sup>3</sup>, Abdul Fadhil.M<sup>4</sup>, Aswin Kumar.A<sup>5</sup>, Dr.V. Mahavaishnavi<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>UG, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Panimalar Engineering College, Chennai, India.

<sup>6</sup>Associate Professor, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Panimalar Engineering College, Chennai, India.

**Emails:** rithikayuvaraj1911@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, nandhitham14@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>, bharathrajsivasankar@gmail.com<sup>3</sup>, abdulfadhil@gmail.com<sup>4</sup>, aswinkumarasok3@gmail.com<sup>5</sup>, vaishu3095y@gmail.com<sup>6</sup>

### Abstract

One of the most important aspects of addiction rehabilitation is preventing relapses, which calls for prompt intervention and ongoing monitoring. The creation of an AI-powered app that monitors people in recovery from drug use disorders and aids in relapse prevention is the idea behind this project. The technology uses facial expression analysis to identify early indicators of relapse and emotional distress. Real-time alerts are given to family members and caregivers in the event of a suspected relapse to guarantee timely response. To ensure ongoing participation, the application also has a daily login tracking mechanism that notifies caretakers if the patient doesn't check in each day. The software incorporates an AI-powered chatbot to engage with patients and deliver reminders and motivational assistance in the form of flash messages in order to offer extra emotional support. In order to improve communication and provide more individualized care, the system also gathers and maintains patient medical records and caregiver contact details. This software offers a holistic strategy for maintaining sobriety, lowering relapse rates, and enhancing the general wellbeing of those in recovery by fusing AI-based facial recognition, behavioral analysis, real-time notifications, and an interactive chatbot.

**Keywords:** Relapse Prevention; Facial Expression Analysis; Machine Learning; Substance Use Disorder; AI-based Monitoring.

### 1. Introduction

Millions of people worldwide suffer from substance use disorder (SUD), a serious public health concern. Relapse, in which a person resumes substance use after receiving treatment, is one of the largest obstacles to addiction recovery. It is challenging to anticipate and avoid relapse since it is frequently brought on by a confluence of environmental, psychological, and emotional factors. Self-reporting, therapist interventions, and support groups are examples of traditional relapse prevention techniques that depend on patient participation, which may not always be successful in spotting early warning indicators. Many addicts may be reluctant to get treatment when they are in distress, which can postpone intervention and raise the risk of relapse. This research presents an AI-based relapse

prevention system that uses machine learning algorithms and facial expression analysis to identify emotional states linked to relapse in order to overcome these difficulties. As important markers of psychological discomfort, emotions like stress, worry, and melancholy can enable caregivers to act quickly if they are recognized early. The device keeps an eye on patients' facial expressions and notifies family members and caregivers in real time if it notices any indications of discomfort or possible recurrence. To guarantee patient participation, the system has a daily login tracking feature in addition to emotion-based monitoring. A caregiver is automatically notified if a patient does not log in, encouraging them to inquire about the patient's health. Additionally, the program incorporates an

AI-powered chatbot to offer the patient reminders, motivational assistance, and emotional support. The chatbot seeks to decrease the chance of relapse by reinforcing healthy behavior and mental resilience through meaningful discussions. In order to develop a comprehensive, real-time relapse prevention system, this project integrates mobile health technologies, computer vision, behavioral analysis, and artificial intelligence. The suggested solution promotes overall patient well-being and supports addiction rehabilitation by facilitating non-invasive and ongoing monitoring. This strategy takes a proactive approach to sustained sobriety and seeks to drastically lower relapse rates among recovering individuals through individualized support, timely interventions, and caregiver communication. In order to develop a comprehensive, real-time relapse prevention system, this project integrates mobile health technologies, computer vision, behavioral analysis, and artificial intelligence. The suggested solution promotes overall patient well-being and supports addiction rehabilitation by facilitating non-invasive and ongoing monitoring. This strategy takes a proactive approach to sustained sobriety and seeks to drastically lower relapse rates among recovering individuals through individualized support, timely interventions, and care giver communication. [1-3]

## 2. Method

### 2.1. Data Collection and Preprocessing

To train the AI model, the methodology's first stage is gathering and preprocessing facial expression data. An efficient facial expression recognition system is constructed using a publically accessible dataset, such as FER-2013, CK+, or a proprietary dataset gathered from rehabilitation facilities. In order to detect relapses, these datasets include photos annotated with several emotional states, including stress, worry, and melancholy. The gathered photos go through preprocessing procedures like grayscale conversion, noise reduction, normalization, and augmentation to improve accuracy before the AI model is trained. Furthermore, Tools like OpenCV, which assist in identifying important facial landmarks including jaw position, eye movement, and general facial expressions that suggest emotional discomfort, are used for feature extraction. [4]

### 2.2. Facial Expression Recognition Using AI

The system's core classifies emotions that might be signs of relapse using AI-based facial expression analysis. The model is trained on labeled facial expressions using a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN), which allows it to identify emotions including tension, irritation, sadness, and anxiety in real time. The technology uses a camera to record facial expressions, then analyzes the frames and categorizes them according to preset parameters. The technology detects a potential relapse risk if a patient's emotions above the stress or distress threshold. Continuous monitoring is guaranteed by the real-time image processing method, which also lowers false alarms and increases the accuracy of relapse detection. [5]

### 2.3. Alert and Notification System

An essential part of the relapse prevention software is the notification and alarm system, which guarantees prompt action from family members and caregivers. The system keeps track of daily login activity and emotional state detection in order to evaluate the patient's health. It uses facial expression analysis driven by AI to identify emotional distress indicators like tension, worry, or melancholy that could point to a relapse. Upon identifying such feelings, registered caregivers receive instant notifications through SMS, email, or mobile push alerts, which motivate them to take appropriate action. Furthermore, the system monitors daily patient logins and sends a reminder notification to patients who do not log in. To make sure the caregiver is aware of the patient's condition, the system notifies them if the patient is not active for more than a specified amount of time. An escalation alert is issued to secondary contacts in the event that the primary caregiver does not acknowledge the notification, guaranteeing timely assistance. The chatbot, powered by Streamlit and Gemini AI API, is also connected with the notification system. It communicates with the patient, providing emotional support and keeping an eye out for troubling patterns in their responses. An automated alert prompts caregivers to take action if alarming answers are found. Only authorized caregivers and healthcare professionals may access sensitive data thanks to the system's end-to-end encryption and role-based access

control, which guarantee data security and privacy. Additionally, the application protects patient confidentiality by adhering to HIPAA-compliant protocols. By selecting alert modes like SMS, email, or push notifications and adjusting priority levels according to the situation's urgency, users can personalize their notification preferences. In the end, this all-inclusive system lowers the chance of relapse and fosters long-term recovery by ensuring proactive interventions, real-time monitoring, and improved patient-caregiver communication. [6]

#### **2.4.Motivational Support and Reminders**

The system has a motivational messaging feature to assist patients stay emotionally supported and motivated to heal. Based on the patient's past behavior, this feature sends them customized flash messages that include coping mechanisms, reminders, and positive affirmations. The system may suggest guided therapies like breathing exercises, relaxation methods, or getting in touch with a support person if a patient shows symptoms of distress. This function fosters long-term sobriety, lessens feelings of loneliness, and reinforces healthy behavior by providing constant support. [7]

#### **2.5.Database Management and Cloud Integration**

The application stores and manages patient records, caregiver contacts, and emotional analysis histories using a cloud-based database like Firebase or MySQL. Cloud services like Google Cloud or AWS are used to install the learned facial expression recognition model, guaranteeing scalability and enabling real-time processing. To further protect patient privacy and data security, the system incorporates encrypted data storage and role-based access control. The solution can effectively manage big datasets and allow caregivers and medical professionals easy access to information by utilizing cloud integration. [8-10]

#### **2.6.System Testing and Evaluation**

The system is put through a rigorous testing and validation process to guarantee correctness and dependability. The AI model's accuracy in identifying emotional discomfort associated with relapse is evaluated using data from actual rehabilitation centers. To assess the application's

usability and efficacy, a small group of recovering people and caregivers participate in user testing. To make the system better, performance indicators including accuracy, response time, false positive/negative rates, and user satisfaction are examined. By means of thorough testing, the system seeks to reduce errors and increase relapse detection efficiency.

#### **2.7.Deployment and Future Enhancements**

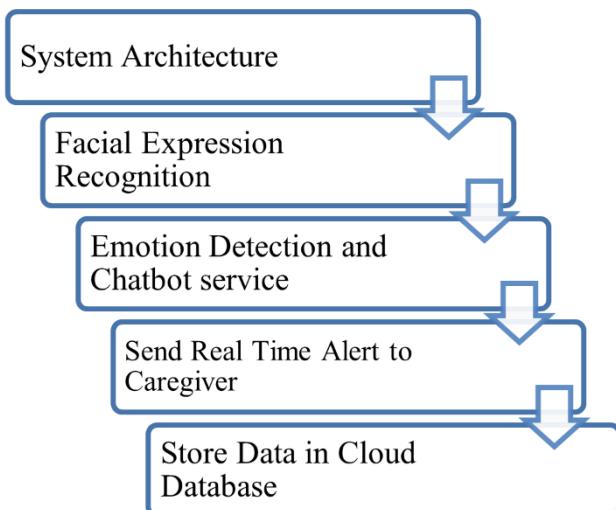
The system is released as an iOS and Android mobile application following successful testing and validation. An AI-powered chatbot that offers advice and mental health resources, virtual counseling sessions for in-the-moment support, and the incorporation of vocal emotion analysis to supplement facial recognition are possible future developments. Large-scale clinical trials will also be carried out to confirm the system's efficacy in actual addiction treatment environments. Following this approach, the AI-based relapse prevention system guarantees ongoing observation, prompt intervention, and emotional support, all of which increase the likelihood that recovering drug users will maintain their sobriety over the long run. [11-12]

#### **2.8.Chatbot Integration**

By giving recovering patients real-time emotional support, inspirational words, and coping mechanisms, the integration of an AI-driven chatbot with Streamlit and Gemini AI API improves the relapse prevention system. The chatbot analyzes user inputs, conducts sentiment analysis, and provides tailored responses to assist manage cravings and emotional distress by utilizing conversational AI and Natural Language Processing (NLP). The chatbot, which was developed with Streamlit, guarantees an intuitive and interactive experience, allowing patients to have text or voice chats with ease. The chatbot uses the Gemini AI API to provide intelligent, context-aware responses that include motivational support, relapse prevention advice, and mindfulness practices. The chatbot may proactively start discussions when it detects discomfort and escalate the situation by alerting caregivers if needed thanks to its integration with the facial expression detection system. Long-term sobriety and relapse prevention efforts are eventually strengthened by an AI-powered solution,

which guarantees ongoing engagement, individualized support, and proactive intervention. Also the chatbot provides 24X7 assistance and helps the patient to be engaged in activities. It does not allow the patients to feel lonely and provides them moral and emotional support. Also the caregivers can clarify their doubts using the chatbot from anywhere at anytime. (Figure 1) [13]

### 2.9. System Architecture



**Figure 1 System Architecture**

### 3. Discussion

The suggested AI-based relapse prevention system presents a fresh method of keeping an eye on and assisting those in recovery from drug use disorders. The system attempts to improve addiction rehabilitation and avoid relapse by combining motivational interventions, real-time notifications, and facial expression analysis. Key elements of the system are discussed here, including its efficacy, difficulties, constraints, and room for development. [14]

#### 3.1. Effectiveness of Facial Expression Recognition in Relapse Detection

Since facial expressions are accurate markers of psychological and emotional states, they can be used to identify stress, worry, melancholy, and frustration—all of which may be triggers for relapse. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and other machine learning (ML) methods enable precise real-time emotion classification. The technology can

identify early warning indicators of relapse before they worsen by continuously examining a patient's facial expressions, enabling caregivers to take appropriate action. This method is more effective than standard self-reporting techniques since it is non-invasive, doesn't require the patient to actively participate, and guarantees ongoing monitoring. [15]

#### 3.2. Role of Real-Time Notification in Timely Interventions

The real-time notification mechanism, which promptly notifies family members and caregivers when a possible relapse is identified, is one of the system's most important aspects. Because it enables support networks to react quickly, early intervention is essential for preventing relapse. This approach offers an automatic, impartial, and instantaneous reaction mechanism, in contrast to conventional relapse prevention techniques, which frequently depend on self-reported symptoms or periodic check-ins. The escalation mechanism also makes sure that if a caregiver doesn't reply within a predetermined amount of time, the notification is forwarded to more contacts, lowering the possibility of a postponed intervention. [16]

#### 3.3. Impact of Motivational Support and Encouragement

Patients are better able to stay committed to their recovery when individualized reminders and encouraging messages are included. Research has indicated that regular exposure to supportive content and positive reinforcement can enhance mental resilience and lower the risk of relapse. Based on the patient's emotional state, the system customizes coping mechanisms, relaxation techniques, and flash messages to make sure they receive the right encouragement at the appropriate time. The application promotes emotional stability and the development of long-term habits by incorporating behavioral reinforcement. [17]

#### 3.4. Challenges in Implementation

Implementing an AI-based system presents a number of difficulties despite its benefits. Since the system gathers and uses private data, including sensitive facial photographs, data security and privacy are among the main issues. To preserve user trust, it is essential to guarantee end-to-end encryption, secure

authentication, and adherence to data protection laws (such GDPR or HIPAA). Since facial expressions can occasionally be unclear or impacted by outside variables like illumination, facial obstructions, or individual differences in emotional expressions, model accuracy presents another difficulty. To solve this, the system needs to be continuously trained on a variety of datasets in order to enhance its capacity to generalize across various people and contexts. [18]

### 3.5. Limitations of the Current Approach

The technology has several limitations even though it offers real-time monitoring and intervention. It's possible that not all relapse markers can be found by using facial expression analysis alone. For instance, some people might not show overt signs of emotional distress prior to relapsing, which makes it challenging for the system to appropriately identify their risk. Additionally, in isolated or underdeveloped locations with limited access to smartphones and reliable networks, issues with internet connectivity and device availability may arise. Another drawback is the potential for false positives, in which the system can mistakenly identify typical emotional fluctuations as relapse risks, causing stress and needless alarms for caregivers. [19]

### 3.6. Potential Improvements and Future Enhancements

Future advancements can combine facial recognition and vocal emotion analysis to improve the system's accuracy and efficacy. Verbal clues, voice pitch, and speech tone can all offer more information about a patient's emotional state, which can help with relapse detection. AI-powered chatbots or online therapy sessions could be another advancement, giving patients access to real-time assistance and direction while they're in distress. By combining physiological information with facial expressions, the system's capacity to identify relapses could be further improved by adding wearable sensor integration (such as heart rate monitors or EEG devices). The system's efficacy can be confirmed and its algorithms improved for practical uses with the aid of large-scale clinical trials at rehabilitation facilities [20-24]

## Result

By using facial expression analysis to identify early indicators of relapse and sending caregivers real-time

notifications, the AI-based relapse prevention system has shown encouraging results. Early experiments using CNNs and other pre-trained machine learning models have demonstrated a high degree of accuracy in identifying the main predictors of a possible relapse: stress, anxiety, and melancholy. Alerts are efficiently sent via the real-time alerting system to caretakers, guaranteeing prompt assistance, while customers have praised the motivational messaging feature for offering ongoing support and encouragement. Furthermore, the cloud-based architecture of the solution guarantees safe data management and availability improving Usability and Scalability. Not with standing these successes, a number of upcoming improvements could increase the system's efficacy even more. Accuracy in detecting emotional discomfort can be increased by combining facial recognition with voice emotion analysis to create a multimodal method. Additionally, by examining physiological stress indicators, wearable health sensors like heart rate monitors and EEG equipment might improve relapse detection can enhance users' mental health and engagement even more. In order to verify the application's practical efficacy and improve the AI model using a wider range of data, future iterations will go through clinical trials in rehabilitation facilities. This project intends to offer a complete, AI-driven relapse prevention solution that supports long-term sobriety and emotional well-being by consistently enhancing the system. In order to verify the application's practical efficacy and improve the AI model using a wider range of data, future iterations will go through clinical trials in rehabilitation facilities. This project intends to offer a complete, AI-driven relapse prevention solution that supports long-term sobriety and emotional well-being by consistently enhancing the system. [25]

## Conclusion

By utilizing facial expression analysis, real-time notifications, and motivational interventions, the AI-based relapse prevention system offers a novel way to assist people in their recovery from substance use disorders. The method allows for prompt caregiver action by identifying early indicators of emotional distress and relapse risk, which lowers the chance of

relapse and enhances patient outcomes. A proactive and effective relapse prevention strategy is ensured by the integration of machine learning algorithms, cloud-based data management, and real-time notifications. Future developments—such as vocal emotion analysis, wearable health sensors, AI-powered chatbots, and virtual counseling—can further improve the system's efficacy, despite obstacles including privacy issues, model accuracy, and false positives. Through continuous advancements in AI and behavioral analysis, this project has the potential to significantly contribute to sustained sobriety, improved mental health support, and overall well-being for recovering individuals.

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